UNCLASSIFIED



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

11 March 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Andreas - More Than \$3.5M Worth of Cannabis Seized After Raids of Illegal Grow Houses

(U) Authorities have seized more than \$3.5 million of marijuana in raids of illegal grow houses across Calaveras County over the past few weeks. The total comes from three houses the Calaveras County Sheriff's Office Marijuana Enforcement Unit has raided recently. In the first raid deputies served a search warrant at a home and found 741 plants and 52-pounds of processed marijuana. Last week deputies raided two homes and uncovered large grows in each. In the first home a total of 2,511 plants and 222-pounds of processed marijuana was found inside, in the second home deputies found 2,298 marijuana plants.

SOURCE: 9 March 2021, CBS 13

(U) Soledad – Montana Meth Dealers Worked Directly with the Aryan Brotherhood and Sinaloa Cartel

(U) A methamphetamine trafficking ring that was run from California prisons had such a far reach that incarcerated prison gang associates were arranging drug deals from 1,200 miles away. Two Montana methamphetamine traffickers, Leon Kavis Jr., and Dylan Mace were reportedly tied in with suppliers connected to the Aryan Brotherhood and the Sinaloa Cartel. This week, Kavis agreed to plead guilty to methamphetamine distribution, while Mace pleaded guilty to similar charges last month. Both men are awaiting sentencing, court records show.

SOURCE: 10 March 2021, Mercury News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – At Least Ten Hacking Groups Using Microsoft Software Flaw

(U) Washington – Researchers are reporting that at least 10 different hacking groups are using a recently discovered flaw in Microsoft Corp's mail server software to break in to targets around the world, according to researchers at cybersecurity company ESET. The security holes in the widely used mail and calendaring solution leave the door open to industrial-scale cyber espionage, allowing malicious actors to steal emails virtually at will.

SOURCE: 10 March 2021, Reuters

(U) District of Columbia – US Charges Another Oath Keepers Associate in Capitol Riots Probe

(U) Washington – The US Justice Department this week charged another associate of the Oath Keepers militia over his alleged role in storming the US Capitol. Joshua A. James, 33, is at least the second known Oath Keepers associate who was captured in photographs to face charges. James is due to appear in a federal court in for a detention hearing.

SOURCE: 10 March 2021, Reuters

(U) New York – US Designates Groups in Congo, Mozambique as Foreign Terrorist Organizations

(U) New York – The United States has designated two extremist groups in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Mozambique as foreign terrorist organizations over accusations of links to Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). The Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) in Congo and its leader Seka Musa Baluku

UNCLASSIFIED

and Mozambique's Ahlu Sunnah Wa-Jama and its leader Abu Yasir Hassan were also named as specially designated global terrorists. The United States has dubbed the groups ISIS-DRC and ISIS-Mozambique. SOURCE: 10 March 2021, Reuters

(U) Texas – FBI Seeking Help to Find Three Women Likely Kidnapped in Mexico

(U) San Antonio – The FBI is looking to find three women who were last seen crossing into Nuevo Laredo, Mexico on 3 March, when they went for a medical appointment. 38-year-old Blasa Guadalupe Palomo, and her daughter, 18-year-old Blasa Guadalupe Palomo. The third missing women is 38-year-old Perla Ercia. The FBI says the women were going to visit an eye doctor in Nuevo Laredo for Perla's eye infection. The FBI was unable to share why federal agents believe they were kidnapped but said the women would never abandon their families.

SOURCE: 10 March 2021, Reuters

(U) Texas - 31 Missing Children Recovered

(U) Dallas-Fort Worth – The US Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Texas announced today that 31 DFW-area children have been located, recovered, or rescued as a result of a month-long operation led by the US Marshals Service and Homeland Security Investigations. The federal agencies partnered with local police departments to locate the missing minors. Analysts with the Texas Department of Public Safety's Missing & Unidentified Persons Unit and the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services provided critical intelligence. Also, a Local nonprofit provided 24-hour support and relayed numerous tips that culminated in recoveries.

SOURCE: 10 March 2021, KHOU

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Netherlands – Police Fear Protesters May Have Turned to Terrorism After Bombing of Test-Site

(U) Bovenkarspel – A pipe bomb damaged a COVID-19 testing facility on Wednesday, which police are calling an intentional attack and Dutch domestic intelligence officials say could be a case of violent, pandemic-related terrorism. Police have been expecting an increase in anti-lockdown violence since a series of riots rocked the country in January 2021, where protesters sporadically fought with police for four straight days. The explosion at a public-health clinic, damaged the facility and stunned an overnight security guard but did not cause any serious injuries, as authorities warned that debris recovered from the scene clearly indicated an intentional attack with a device resembling a pipe bomb.

SOURCE: 9 March 2021, Business Insider

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
- (U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.